

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

January 2025 Newsletter

2025 General Meeting Schedule *

January 9	June 12
February 13	September 11
March 13	October 9
April 10	November 13
May 9 (Friday)	December 11

2025 ENG C Board Meetings

January 6 1:30pm	June 9
February 10	September 8
March 10	October 6
April 7	November 10
May 5	December 8

* General Meetings begin 9:15AM at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church. 9201 Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, unless noted.

**Board Meetings are the Monday before the 2nd Thursday of the month. Meetings start at 10AM, same location, unless noted.

Save the Dates:

January 6 - Frost Tree Take Down
January 6 - Budget Meeting (12:30)
May 9 - Plant Sale set up
May 10 - Plant Sale

President's Message - Nathalie Petri

Happy New Year! I recently read this article about why we garden and thought I would share. It made me think of how grateful I am for ENG C and how much I have learned and enjoyed gardening with you over the years.

"As we mull over why gardening has become such an important part of life, maybe it's worth thinking about the positive influences we're enjoyed over the years. I don't mean the authors whose books we love or the designers whose work we enjoy, I mean the people just like you and me who gave us the gentle nudge of encouragement when we needed it. The people who shared their plants with us when we were getting started. The people who helped us when we got things wrong. Gardens might be made with plants but could never exist without people."

As we move into the New Year I look forward to us all growing together through our rain garden project, speakers, field trips, youth programs and more.

Nathalie

1st Vice Presidents - Jane Petrie and Marlene Winter - January Program

The January 9, 2025, meeting will include a review of the past year's programs and events. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in gardening and floral arranging to find out more about the club and its programs. Guests are welcome.

Jane and Marlene W.

Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

If you feed the birds or enjoy seeing them in your yard, a fresh water source helps them survive the cold winter temperatures. I used a birdbath heater that is thermostatic. That means it turns on at 35 degrees (water temp.) and off above that. Mine resembles a gray rock and I place it in a large plastic plant saucer on a table on my deck. It is plugged into the GFI outlet I use for my pool fountain in warm weather. Lately I have seen over a dozen birds at a time visiting it.

I don't like snow but it is beneficial to plants as it keeps the soil warmer when temperatures approach zero.

If you are planning on adding native plants or shrubs to your garden, do some research to see what they need. Most natives do not need additional fertilizer or water (once established). Putting these in rich soil will result in rampant growth that will sprawl. There are natives adapted to wet sites, shady sites, dry sunny areas and clay soil. Try to match your site with the plant. Natives are generally resistant to browsing by deer, rabbits and other critters. They benefit the pollinators by providing nectar. They can be hosts for butterfly larvae. Some are hosts to moth caterpillars which provide food for nesting birds. We help the ecosystem by growing these plants instead of hybrids that may or not make pollen, nectar or seeds. I have always found it fun to try something I never grew before. Sometimes it's veggies and sometimes flowers. There have been winners and losers over the years but it's always fun. This year was Schizanthus and 2025 will be Godetia (both annual flowers).

Enjoy the holiday season,
Pat

Plant History

In Greek Mythology Snowdrops are a symbol of hope and rebirth. They are said to emerge from the ground as a promise of Persephone's imminent return and the arrival of spring.

The first recorded cultivation of Snowdrops in England was in the 16th century. They were popularized by the Victorian's language of flowers; in which they mean hope.

While not native to Ohio, they are not considered invasive and are a great early food source for pollinators.

Happy Birthday!

Pat Cotsman
Marlene Helm
Judith Paffilas
Lisa Schieman

Garden Stories

Feel free to send pictures of your garden, a favorite plant, and/or lists of favorite gardening books and share why you started gardening, what it means to you, special garden memories, and/or your future goals for gardening.

Please email your story and a picture of your garden or plants, if available, to Anne Morrison at amorrison05@icloud.com.

Sustainable is Attainable!

Bring your own coffee cup to
ENG C meetings!



Brecksville Library Program "Owls"

On December 10th, Brecksville Children's Librarian Danette Fahey read the story of "The Christmas Owl" by Ellen Kalish to complement an ENGC-sponsored workshop for kids to create pine cone owls.

The story is based on a real-life event. A baby owl was shipped from Connecticut to Rockefeller Center in the live Christmas tree to be installed there. It was nearly dead when discovered, and was transferred to a raptor rehab center for recovery. It survived and was ultimately released back into its native location.

Sheila Humphrey organized the workshop. ENGC members Nathalie Petri, Pauline Dey, Maureen Michal, Debbie Apple and Laurie Siebert helped kids create their owls.



2025 Hostesses

January 9	Gail Berzins Mary Drumm Maureen Michal
February 13	Dianna Kulwicki Fran McIntyre Joan Castelucci
March 13	Sheila Humphrey Shirley Grispino Lisa Schieman
April 10	Marlene Helm Paul Helm Pauline Dey
June 12	Laurie Siebert Rosanne Radziewicz Sung Gullifer
September 11	Pat Cotsman Mary Ellen Isaac Debbie Apple
November 13	Donna Hessel Denise Bowler Nathalie Petri
December 11	Cheryl Schmidt Anne Morrison Marlene Winter

Did You Know ...

85% of all plant life on Earth is found under the ocean!

Around Town

Fun classes, workshops and good deals offered around town. Please check in advance for any class pre-registration requirements. Find one? Send it in!

Master Rain Gardener Self-Paced Online Class, Dec 31st, 2024; Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District

Virtual House Plant Q&A, Jan 9th 7pm; Holden Forests and Gardens

House Plants 101 & 102, select dates beginning Jan 11th; Cleveland Botanical Gardens

Native Seed Swap and Seed Packaging Jan 11th 10am-12:30pm Brecksville Public Library; Wild Ones Greater Cleveland

Plants at War: A History, Jan 14th 7pm, Virtual Meeting; Holden Forests and Gardens

Wildlife Folklore Evenings, Jan 15th 7pm, Brecksville Reservation; Cleveland Metroparks

Native Seed Winter Sowing, Jan 19 2pm, Oenslager Nature Center; Wild Ones Greater Cleveland

Growing Lavender: Greening a Brownfield, Jan 22nd 7pm, F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, Akron; Summit County Master Gardeners

Creativity in the Carriage House Monthly Floral Class, Jan 24th 6pm-8pm, The Margaret Cleveland; presented by Crimson and Clover

Bark and Buds Hike, Jan 25th 1pm, Brecksville Reservation; Cleveland Metroparks

A Guide to Winter Plant Identification, Jan 25th 2pm, Watershed Stewardship Center; Cleveland Metroparks

Design and Beyond 2025, Jan 25th doors open 8am, George Orthodox Church, Fairlawn; Summit County Master Gardeners

2025 CSA shares now available through Crown Point Ecology. USDA certified organic.

Plant Pre-order now available online at Prairie Moon Nursery

The Newsletter deadline is always the 25th of the month.

Please email articles to amorrison05@icloud.com or mail them to Anne Morrison. (See Yearbook for address). Gardening tips, fun facts, websites to browse, and recipes always welcome.



Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a member of
Garden Club of Ohio, Inc., (Cleveland District) affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc.
www.gardenclubofohio.org

www.gardenclub.org

